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On Some Butterflies from Nepal, Bhutan and Thailand

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Abstract *Ypthima parasakra* sp. n. from Nepal and Bhutan *Amblopala avidiena nepalica* subsp. n. from central Nepal, *Chrysozephyrus nigroapicalis philipi* subsp. n. from north Thailand and *Capila hainana arooni* subsp. n. from Peninsular Thailand are described.

Satyridae : Satyrinae

Ypthima parasakra sp. n.

(Figs. 1–5)

♂ Forewing 21.5–23.5 mm. Upperside generally similar to *Y. sakra nikaea* MOORE, 1874, except that there is no trace of submarginal fasciae. On the hindwing, in addition to the ocellus in space 2, very small ocelli may be present in any of spaces 5, 3 and 1b. The 'brand' on the forewing cannot be discerned by the naked eye, and the androconia are similar to those of *nikaea*, but slightly shorter. Underside pale buff, densely and evenly striated with dark brown and lacking the ochreous tinge of *nikaea*, and without a trace of the submarginal fasciae discernible in the latter. Hindwing with ocelli conjoined in spaces 5 and 6, in space 2 and bi-pupilled in space 1b; in one example a minute ocellus was present on the right wing only in space 3. Genitalia similar to those of *Y. sakra*, differing only in the slightly longer and thinner uncus.

♀ Forewing 23.5–24.0 mm. Upperside paler than the male, outwardly freckled with pale buff. On the hindwing ocelli are present in spaces 5, 3 and 2 in both examples examined and are larger than in the male; a minute, single ocellus in space 1b is present in one example. Underside similar to the male.

Holotype ♂, NEPAL, Mustang District (28° 40' N 83° 35' E), Larjung, 8500 ft. (2615 m), 3. ix. 1984, (C. SMITH). In British Museum (Natural History), hereafter abbreviated to BMNH. Paratypes. ♀ (allotype), NEPAL, Manang District (28° 34' N 84° 15' E), Chome, 8700 ft. (2677 m), 11. viii. 1986, (C. SMITH); ♂, BHUTAN, Rida, 7000 ft. (2155 m), 18. vii. 1922, (W. H. EVANS) BMNH; ♂, NEPAL, Langtang District (28° 10' N 85° 25' E), Langtang Khola, 7400 ft. (2277 m), 5. vii. 1986, (C. SMITH) BMNH; ♂, NEPAL, Mustang District, Larjung, 8600 ft. (2646 m), viii. 1896, (C. SMITH); ♂, Mustang District, Kalo Poni, 8300 ft. (2554 m), 23. viii. 1986, (C. SMITH); ♀, Mustang District, Lele, 7800 ft. (2400 m), 23. viii. 1986, (C. SMITH); 2♂, Langtang District, Langtang Khola, 8900 ft. (2738 m), 4. vii. 1986 and 7200 ft. (2215 m), 12. vii. 1986, (C. SMITH). Last five to be deposited in Natural History Museum, Kathmandu and P. N. C. Museum, Pokhara.

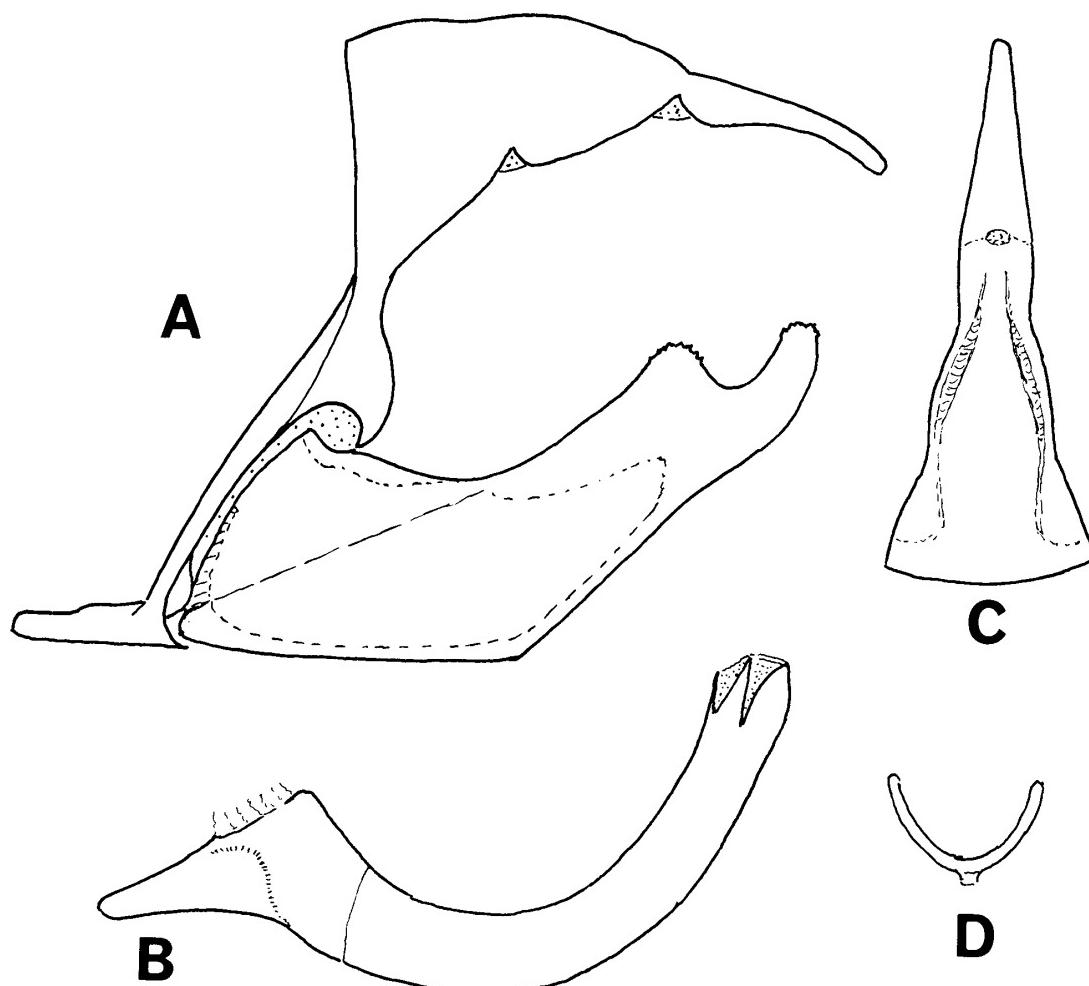
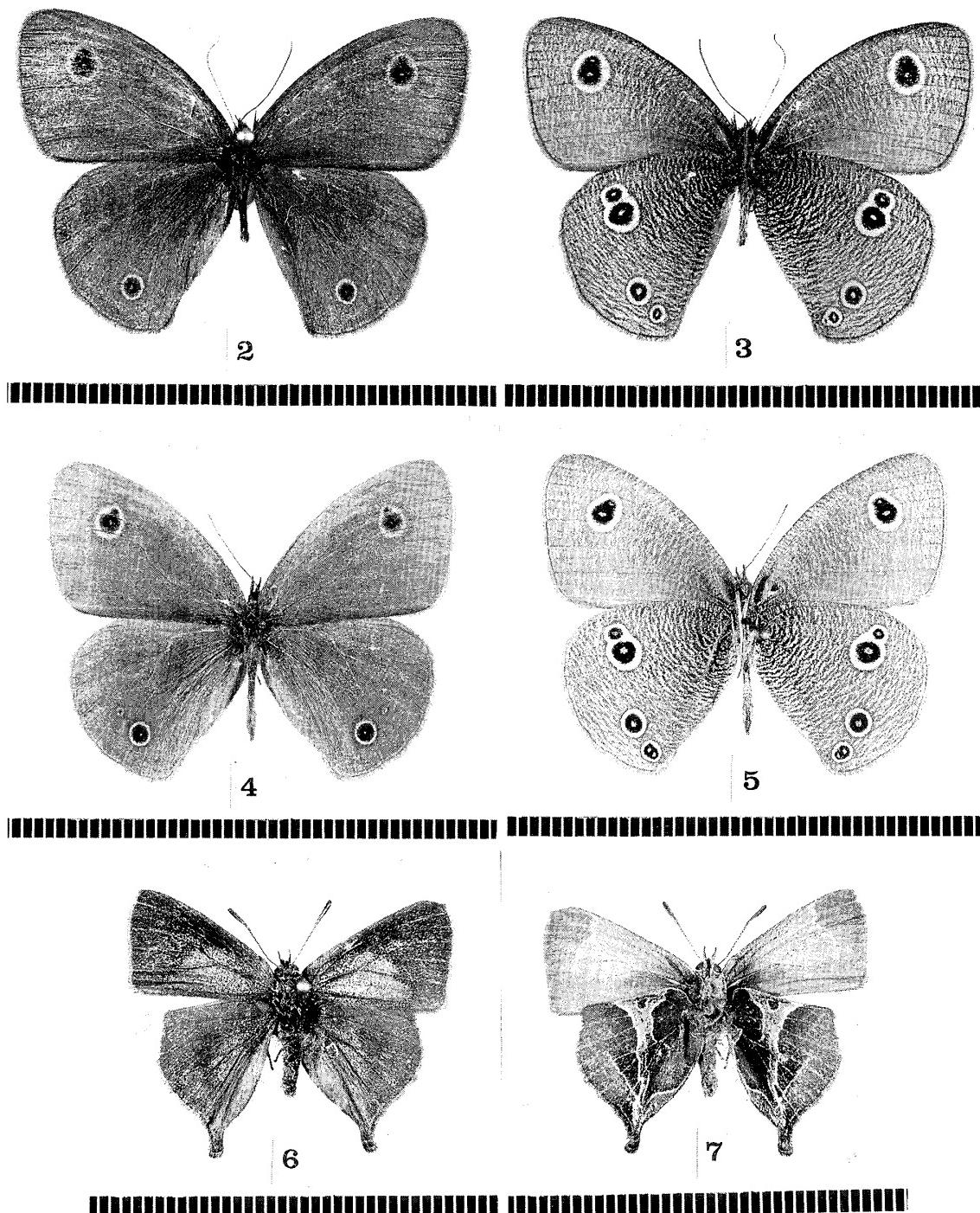


Fig. 1. *Ypthima parasakra* sp. n., male genitalia. A. lateral view of left half of armature; B. phallus; C. dorsal view of uncus+tegumen; D. juxta.

At first sight *Y. parasakra* might be confused with the very occasional examples of *Y. sakra* (all subspecies) in which the ocellus in space 3 on the underside of the hindwing is obsolescent or absent. However the absence of submarginal fasciae on both surfaces readily separates the new species. The small differences in the male genitalia are probably not very significant, given that most species of the *sakra*-group share a common pattern. Furthermore the fact that *Y. parasakra* was taken in 1986 in three quite widely separated localities where *Y. sakra nikaea* was not flying (C. SMITH, pers. comm.) rules out the possibility that it is an aberration of the latter.

The paratype from Bhutan (fig.) was also figured verso by D'ABRERA (1985 : 470) as *Y. lycus* de NICÉVILLE, 1889, in error; the example figured recto is a different species, possibly correctly identified as *Y. lycus*, though it is not typical.



Figs. 2 - 7. 2. *Ypthima parasakra* sp. n., holotype ♂, Napal, upperside; 3. Ditto, underside; 4. *Y. parasakra* ♂ paratype, Bhutan, upperside 5. Ditto, underside; 6. *Amblopala avidiena nepalica* subsp. n., holotype ♂, Nepal, upperside; 7. *Ditto*, underside.

Nymphalidae : Limenitidinae

Limenitis (Parasarpa) houlberti OBERTHÜR, 1913
 (Figs. 8, 9)

The opportunity is taken to figure this seldom seen species from two males taken in April 1986 in north Thailand, Phang District Doi Pha Hom Pok ($20^{\circ} 07' N$ $99^{\circ} 12' E$). This area lies within the Mekong Basin, and its faunal affinities must lie with south-western Yunnan, as evidenced by other recent captures including the lycaenids *Caerulea coeligena* (OBERTHÜR, 1876) and *Chrysozephyrus nigroapicalis* (see below), neither of which have previously been taken outside China.

Lycaenidae : Theclinae

Chrysozephyrus nigroapicalis philipi subsp. n.
 (Figs. 10, 11, 12)

♂. Differs from subsp. *nigroapicalis* (HOWARTH, 1957), of which I have examined the unique holotype in BMNH, as follows. Smaller, forewing 17.5 – 19.0 mm compared with 21.5 mm. On the upperside the black border is a little narrower at the forewing apex; the hindwing border is the same width as the forewing border between veins 2 and 3, whereas in *nigroapicalis* the hindwing border is distinctly wider than the forewing border. On the hindwing the pale submarginal line in spaces 1b and 2 is faint, diffused and whitish-blue, whereas in *nigroapicalis* it is prominent and shining sapphire blue. On the underside the ground colour is a little more greyish. On the forewing the postdiscal white band is straight, but in *nigroapicalis* is inclined in space 2. The pale areas between the black marginal hair-line and the thin outer submarginal fascia and also between this fascia and the wider inner submarginal fascia are hardly paler than the ground colour, whereas in *nigroapicalis* they are whitish. On both wings the discocellular bars are more strongly marked, that on the hindwing inwardly margined with whitish. At the hindwing tornus the inner submarginal line is whitish, but in *nigroapicalis* is pale, shining sapphire blue in space 1a and the lower half of space 1b.

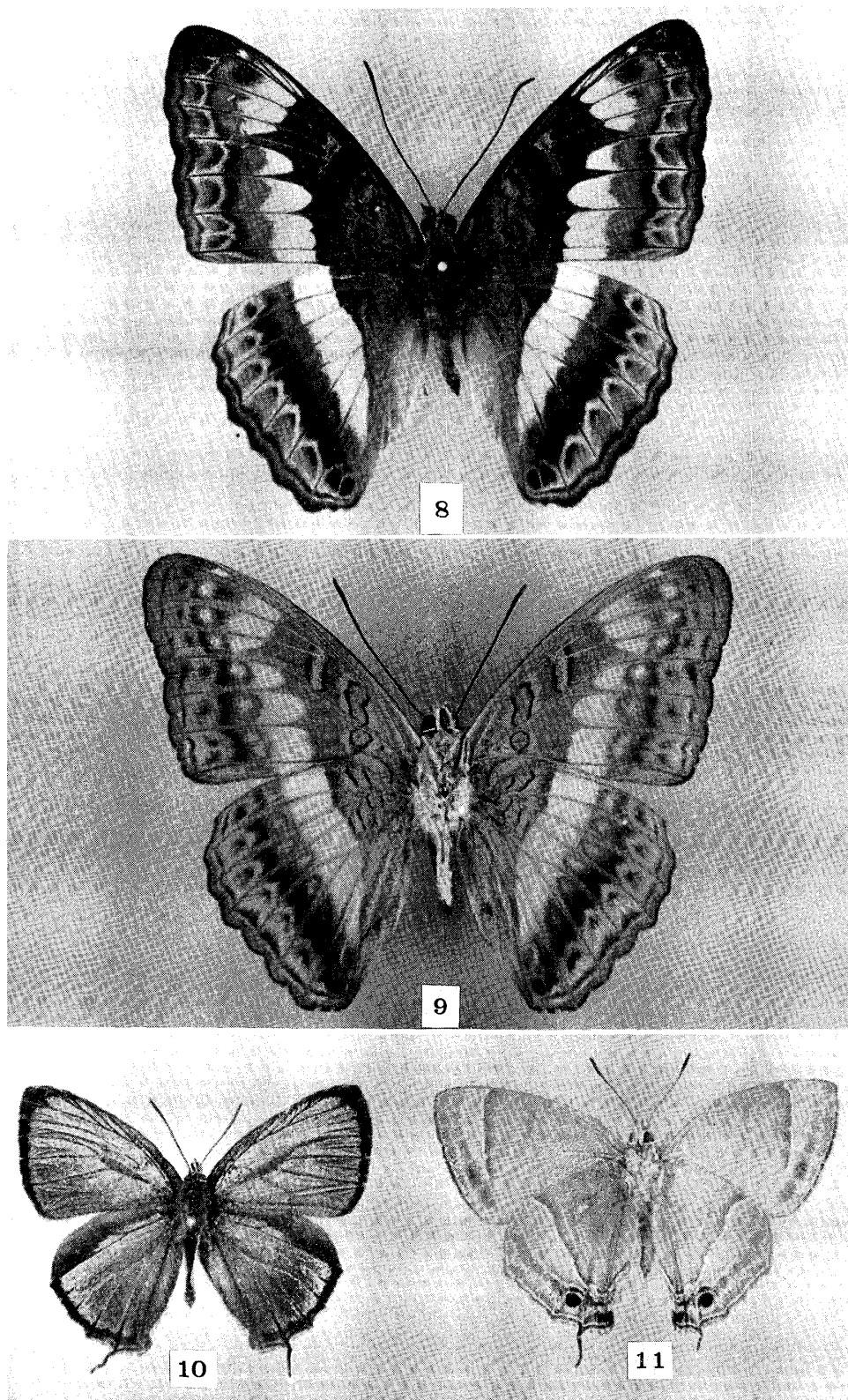
Holotype ♂. THAILAND, Phang District, Dong Pu Mueng, Doi Pha Hom Pok, 1800 – 2000 m, 25. iv. 1986, (Somnuk PANPICHIT). In BMNH.

Other materials. 3♂, same data as holotype, in coll. St. Gabriel's College. As I have not examined these except by photographs they are excluded from the type-series.

Because of its small size it was at first suspected that this new taxon might prove to be a subspecies of *C. scintillans* (LEECH, 1893). However, both in the male genitalia, particularly in the blunter elbow of the brachium which is outwardly serrate on both sides, and in its superficial appearance it is closer to nominate *nigroapicalis*. In *C. scintillans* the black borders on the upperside are considerably wider, and on the hindwing the tornal submarginal line is shining sapphire blue. On the underside the

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Figs. 8-11. 8. *Limenitis (Parasarpa) houlberti* OBERTHÜR ♂, Thailand, upperside; 9. *Ditto*, underside; 10. *Chrysozephyrus nigroapicalis philipi* subsp. n., ♂, Thailand, upperside; 11. *Ditto*, underside.

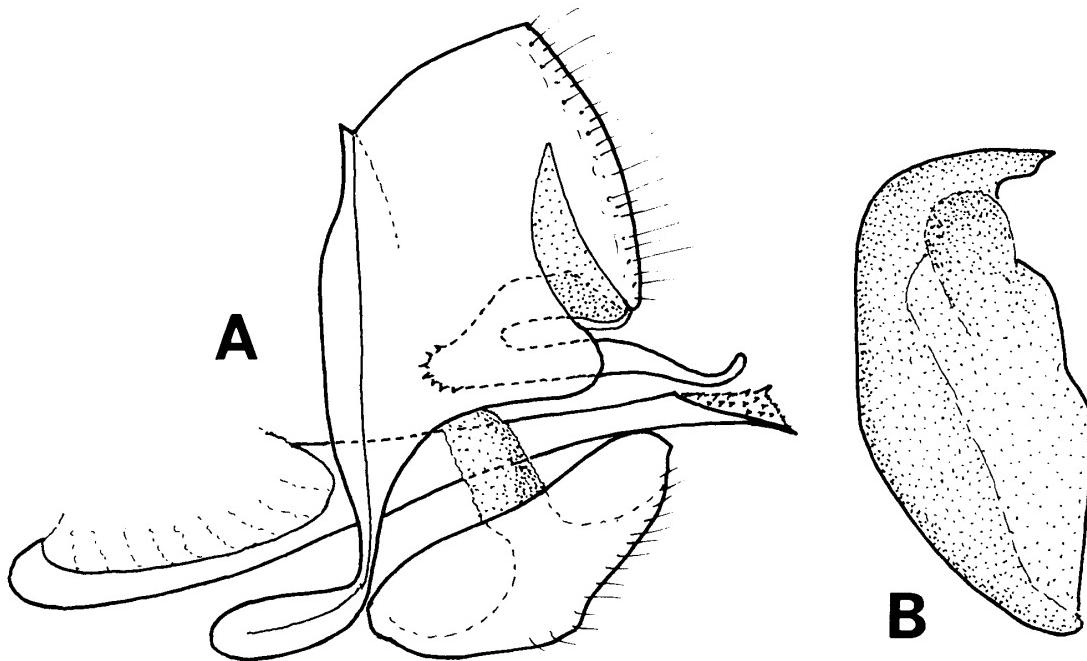


Fig. 12. *Chrysozephyrus nigroapicalis philipi* subsp. n., male genitalia. A. lateral view of left half of armature; B. ventral view of left valva, stippled in the manner of HOWARTH (1957) to assist comparison with his Fig. 3.

ground colour is darker, the postdiscal white band is wider and, on the hindwing, is not inclined outwards in space 7; the discocellular bars are more prominent and outlined whitish on both wings; the marginal pale line is whitish on the forewing and reaches the apex, and is clear white on the hindwing.

At the wish of the captor this new subspecies is dedicated to Brother Amnuay Pinratana, whose religious name is PHILIP.

Amblopala avidiena nepalica subsp. n.
(Figs. 6, 7, 13)

♂. forewing 15.0–17.0 mm. Nearest to the nominate subspecies, from which it differs as follows. On the upperside of the forewing the orange patch beyond the cell is reduced to scattered orange scales at the base of spaces 3 and 4, which may be difficult to see with the naked eye. On the underside the postdiscal white line on the forewing is more curved in above vein 4. On the hindwing the arms of the silver-grey Y-shaped discal band are shorter, and the area of reddish-brown between them is reduced, usually to a dot just below vein 8. In the male genitalia the uncus is more produced and ends in two small points.

Holotype ♂. NEPAL, Kathmandu area, Jhomochoke, 6900 ft. (2120 m), 29. iii. 1986, (C. Smith). In BMNH. Paratypes. 4 ♂, same data as holotype, BMNH 1♂, Nat. Hist. Mus., Kathmandu 3♂; 1♂, 2. iv. 1986, otherwise as holotype, P. N. C. Mus., Pokhara.

A single male in BMNH from the Naga Hills, Assam, is intermediate between

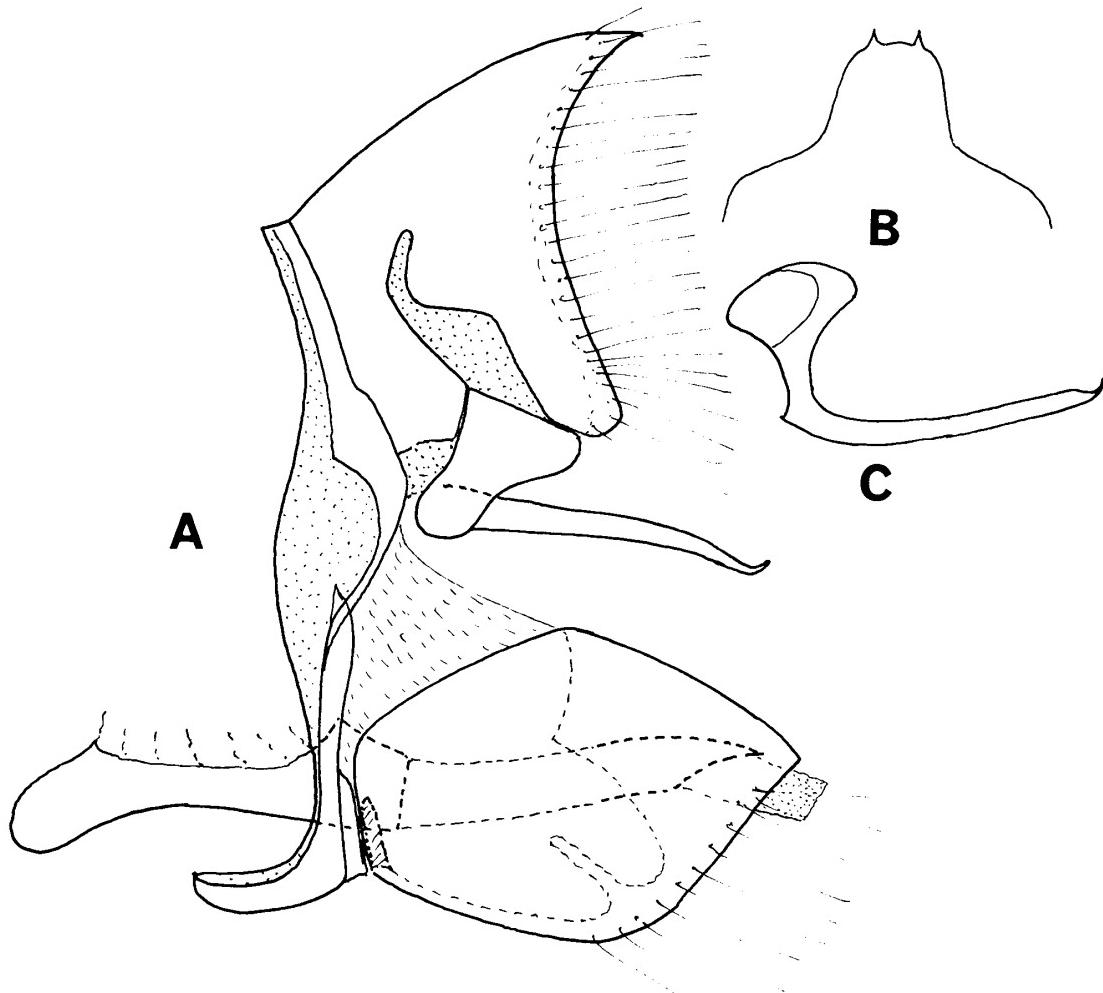


Fig. 13 *Amblopala avidiena nepalica* subsp. n., male genitalia. A. lateral view of left half of armature, including phallus; B. dorsal aspect of uncus; C. interior aspect of right brachium.

subssp. *avidiena* and *nepalica*, so that it is possible that variation is clinal.

Hesperiidae : Pyrginae

Capila hainana arooni subsp. n.

♂. Upperside unmarked dark brown, with the basal half of the forewing and nearly all the hindwing clothed with orange hair scales. Underside buff brown and paler than the upperside. Genitalia similar to examples from south-eastern Thailand.

♀. Upperside brown with an oblique hyaline band on the forewing running from mid-costa almost to the tornus. The clothing of hair scales similar in extent to the male, but of a more buff tint.

Holotype ♂. THAILAND, Peninsular, Muang Chone, 3. iv. 1983, (ex coll. St. Gabriel's College). In BMNH.

Other materials. ♂, Peninsular Thailand, Surat Thani, iii. 1983; ♀, Surat Thani, iii. 1984. In coll. St. Gabriel's College, Bangkok. As I have not recently examined these specimens they are excluded from the type-series. They are figured by PINRATANA (1985 : Pe.10, Figs. 30b ♂♀).

Capila hainana CROWLEY, 1900, was described from a female from Hainan, whence males appear to be unknown. EVANS (1949) synonymised with *hainana* specimens from south-eastern Thailand named *barroni* (RILEY & GODFREY, 1921) which are similar to those figured by PINRATANA, (1985, Pl. 9, figs. 30a ♂♀). From the latter the male of *arooni* differs in lacking a large, quadrate hyaline spot at the end of the forewing cell and in more extensive orange scaling. The female differs in much more extensive buff scaling, which gives it a much paler appearance.

A further subspecies, *mackwoodi* (EVANS, 1914) has been described from the Dawna Hills in Burma, and it may be that this subspecies will be found also in western Thailand. Its male has a large hyaline forewing spot, as in subsp. *hainana*. The wings of both sexes are clothed with plain buff hair scales, and appear much paler than the corresponding sexes of subsp. *hainana* and *arooni*.

This new subspecies is dedicated to its discoverer, Mr. Aroon SAMRUADKIT, whose expert collecting over many years has made an unsurpassed contribution to our knowledge of the Thai butterflies.

Hesperiidae : Hesperiinae

Notocrypta clavata (STAUDINGER, 1889)

In the addendum to PINRATANA (1985) it was suggested that the specimens figured in Pl. 21, fig. 130 ♀ and Pl. 22, fig. 130 ♂ and listed as *N. clavata* subsp. might be an undescribed species because of the presence of a white costal dash on the upperside of the forewing and a peculiar feature of the male genitalia, namely that the two processes of the uncus were quite widely divergent. A second male has now become available for dissection, and it was found to have the uncal processes parallel, as usual in *N. clavata*. There is, therefore no reason to alter their identification as *N. clavata*, and their minor superficial difference from the nominate subspecies seems hardly sufficient to justify naming a new subspecies.

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to Mr. Colin SMITH and to Brother Amnuay PINRATANA for giving me examples of these new butterflies, and for allowing me to deposit them in BMNH. I also thank the Trustees of BMNH for permission to make use of the collections and library and their Photographic Section for taking the photographs reproduced at Figs. 2 - 7.

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